

HEALTH
COUNCIL
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OADBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



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ANNUAL

REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1956

R. W. KIND, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



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OADBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1956

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have to honour to submit my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the District for the year 1956.

The estimate of mid-year population shows an increase commensurate with the amount of private enterprise house building taking place. This increase will no doubt continue. As most of these new houses are accommodating young married couples, an increase in the number of children born is to be expected. In 1956 a total of 111 live births was recorded - the highest yet.

Infectious disease presented no problem. The absence of cases of measles only served to underline the futility of notification of this disease. In an epidemic year notification of measles serves only to place a substantial sum of money to the credit of the practitioners making notifications.

The position with regard to measles is shared by whooping cough, scarlet fever and acute pneumonia. No preventative action is taken. No useful epidemiological purpose is served. The law is to all intents not enforceable.

A highlight of the year was the introduction of vaccination against poliomyelitis. This measure can be considered to give good protection against the more severe manifestations of the disease and is a safe practice.

The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, became operative and have enabled us to present a required standard of conduct and equipment to the food handler. The position still remains that it is the intelligent co-operation of the individual, and not equipment or legislation, which makes for safe food.

Most of your sub-standard houses have been represented to you and all that is awaited is the provision of accommodation to rehouse those displaced. Oadby will shortly be in the satisfactory position of having no serious sub-standard housing problem.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

R. W. KIND,

Medical Officer of Health.

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

Area, in acres	2,529	Number of occupied houses	2,632
Rateable Value on 1st April, 1956	£115,254	Number of houses combined with shops	43
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£448	Number of houses owned by the Council	252
Population (mid 1956)	7,520		

<u>B I R T H S</u>		<u>D E A T H S</u>	
<u>Live Births - Legitimate :</u>		<u>Deaths - all causes</u>	
Male	62	Male	44
Female	45	Female	36
Total	107	Total	80
<u>Illegitimate :</u>		<u>Deaths from puerperal causes</u>	
Male	1		1
Female	3		
Total	4	<u>Deaths of infants under 1 year of age</u>	
Total Live Births :		Male	2
Male	63	Female	1
Female	48	Total	3
Total	111	<u>Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age</u>	
<u>Stillbirths</u>		Male	1
Male	2	Female	1
Female	1	Total	2
Total	3		
<u>Birthrate per 1,000 estimated</u>		<u>Death rate per 1,000 estimated</u>	
<u>population</u>	14.7	<u>population</u>	10.6

C A U S E S O F D E A T H S

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S CLASSIFICATION							1956		
							M	F	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	..	..	-	1	1
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
8.	Measles	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..				-	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	..	..	..	..		1	-	1
11.	" " Bronchus and Lung	..	..				1	-	1
12.	" " Breast	..	..	..	..	..	-	2	2
13.	" " Uterus	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	..	..				6	8	14
15.	Leukaemia and aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
16.	Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	-	1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of the nervous system	..	..				9	8	17
18.	Coronary disease and angina	..	..	..	..	..	8	1	9
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..			1	-	1
20.	Other heart diseases	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	8
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	..	..	2	-	2
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
25.	Other diseases of the respiratory system	..					-	-	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	..		-	2	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..			-	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	..	..	-	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	..	..	..			-	1	1
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..				4	1	5
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
34.	All other accidents	..	..	..	..	..	-	4	4
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	3	-	3
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	..		-	-	-
TOTAL (all causes)							44	36	80

CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

IMMUNISATION :

During 1956 some 81 children under the age of 5 years received primary immunisation against diphtheria. 36 other children received injections to maintain their immunity.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis was offered to certain groups of children between the ages of two and nine years. This was accepted by 27 children and represents 3.3% of those eligible.

B.C.G. vaccination was offered to school leavers. Nine boys and seventeen girls accepted it.

TUBERCULOSIS :

There were no deaths from tuberculosis during 1956.

Four new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified and five additional cases came to live within the district.

At the close of the year, 24 cases of pulmonary and 17 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were known to be living in the district.

DYSENTERY :

Seven cases of dysentery were notified. These notifications led to an investigation of twenty-seven other persons with symptoms of the disease. Examination of faeces failed to reveal any causative organism in these cases.

OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES :

Notified cases of infectious disease other than those already commented upon were as follows :-

Scarlet Fever 2

Whooping Cough 1

Food Poisoning 1

Investigation of the case of food poisoning failed to bring to light any cause.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

I am indebted to Mr. J. G. Davies, Public Health Inspector, for most of the following information relating to the sanitary circumstances of this area.

WATER SUPPLY :

Leicester Corporation mains water is piped throughout the district and a total of 2,606 houses with a population of 7,442 have an internal supply.

A further 26 houses have access to this supply and cater for 78 people.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL :

Sewage is dealt with at the Council's own works. The houses in the district are served by 3,003 water closets, leaving 12 premises supplied by pail closets. These pails are emptied by our own employees every fortnight.

9 cesspools are in use, 3 having been constructed during the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING :

House refuse is collected at weekly intervals by our own employees and is disposed of by controlled tipping.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA :

Complaints received	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
Premises concerned	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	85
Defects or nuisances dealt with	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	93
Total number of Inspections made	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,410

Nature of Inspections

Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Drainage works	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,362
Dwelling Houses (all purposes)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	181
Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52
Refuse Collection and Disposal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	161
Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	542
Smoke Observations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	73

Notices Issued

	<u>Preliminary</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Public Health</u>
Outstanding on 1st January 1956	..	Nil	Nil
Issued during 1956	..	Nil	85
Complied with during 1956	..	Nil	59
Statutory action necessary	..	Nil	Nil
Outstanding on 31st December 1956	..	Nil	26

Regulated Buildings

There are no regulated buildings in the area.

Camping Sites

There are no such sites in this area.

Verminous Premises

No infested premises came to notice during the year.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

A rodent operator is employed jointly with the Wigston Urban District Council. The refuse tip and sewers receive regular treatment. A more comprehensive service could be offered if the Council employed a full-time operator.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

No premises are involved in the operation of these Acts.

Shops Act, 1950

Action under Section 38 of this Act was taken in one instance where washing facilities were found to be defective. The matter was remedied.

Swimming Bath

Three inspections were made and samples of water were taken. These proved to be satisfactory. The filtration and chlorination plant is in continuous use.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

Premises involved in the operation of the Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Inspections made	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Defects found	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Number of Outworkers	..	..	..	..	..	..	39

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

This long awaited legislation presents an additional task for your Public Health Inspector. Seventeen inspections have been made of ten premises. Six informal notices have been served and of these, five have been complied with.

Occupiers of premises where food is handled have been issued with an abstract of the Regulations and advised of action necessary to comply with these.

ICE CREAM

Eight premises are registered for the sale of ice cream. Nine samples were taken during the year, four of these proving to be Grade I and five Grade II.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

Only four distributors are registered.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949
and MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

Licences issued under the above-named Regulations :-

	<u>Dealers</u>	<u>Supplementary</u>
Pasteurised	3	5
Sterilised	2	4
Tuberculin Tested.. .. .	3	4

MILK SAMPLING

Six samples of pasteurised and three of sterilised milk were taken for bacteriological examination. All proved satisfactory.

As all milk sold in the district must now be designated, the routine quarterly sampling of raw milks was discontinued. One random sample was taken from an attested herd and examined for living tubercle bacilli and Brucella Abortus. No evidence of infection was found.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Licensed Slaughterhouses in the area	3
Animals slaughtered therein	5,962
Animals examined at time of slaughter	5,962
Visits made for this purpose	542
Number of Meat Stores in the area	8
Inspections made	8

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION OF ANIMALS AT THE TIME OF SLAUGHTER

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	471	68	341	4506	576
Number inspected	471	68	341	4506	576
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	1	3	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	104	35	-	12	11
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis	22.08	51.7	0.29	0.33	1.9
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	21	9	-	-	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	4.45	13.23	-	-	0.86
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refriger- ation	2	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

H O U S I N G

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :-

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 38
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 81
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses (included under (sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 & 1932 Nil
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 30

CLEARANCE AREAS (Housing Act, 1936 and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954)

	<u>Number of dwelling-houses demolished in the period</u>		<u>Number of persons displaced</u>
	<u>Unfit Houses</u>	<u>Other Houses</u>	
Land coloured pink and pink hatched yellow	Nil	Nil	9

During the year four Clearance Orders, including 26 houses, were made and submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. So far, 2 of these Orders are confirmed without modification. One demolition and one closing order were made and complied with.

REPAIRS :-

	<u>Number of Houses</u>
Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	8

UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE :-

No such houses are in use.

PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT :-

No such houses were purchased.

OVERCROWDING :-

It is felt that no overcrowding exists at the present time.

RECONDITIONING OF HOUSES :-

No Improvement Grants under the Housing Act, 1949, were sought. No such Grants have yet been made by the Council.

NEW HOUSES :-

Number of applications for Council houses at the end of the year	184
Local Authority houses completed during the year	Nil
Local Authority houses under construction at the end of the year	6
Private enterprise houses completed during the year	256
Private enterprise houses under construction at the end of the year	266
Total number of post war houses completed by	
(a) Local Authority	206
(b) Private enterprise	734

Owing to the large number of applications for Council houses yet to be dealt with, coupled with the immediate necessity to rehouse displaced persons from slum clearance property, no new applications for Council houses are being accepted.

